

## Coleman Academy, Gibsland, La. Founded 1887

Prof. O. L. Coleman, President



Rev. O. L. Coleman

THE largest boarding school for Negro Baptists in Louisiana. It is a co-educational institution founded by Rev. O. L. Coleman, and is owned and operated by the Negro Baptists of the state, aided by the American Baptist Home Mission Society.

The institution owns directly and indirectly 182 acres of land and 11 buildings. It is located on a large campus out of reach of town evils, and the property is valued at \$50,000. The Negroes own the western part of the town and have a legally authorized council to guard the laws and morals thereof, and to work in harmony with the white council for the good of both races. Negroes own 180 acres of

Rev. Dr. H. L. Morehouse, corresponding secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, in a recent article on "A Paying Investment," said, in speaking of some results of Home Mission schools like Coleman Academy: "In my twenty-eight years' service for the society I have seen the coarse country boy become the talented preacher, the cultured professor, and the wise leader of thousands, and from long and wide acquaintance and observation I am prepared to say that the investment has paid a hundredfold."

Professor Mitchell writes me: "Any man or woman who lifts his voice for kindness, repression of prejudice, and willingness to believe in the capacity of all God's children, is doing, by this, supreme service to the American nation."

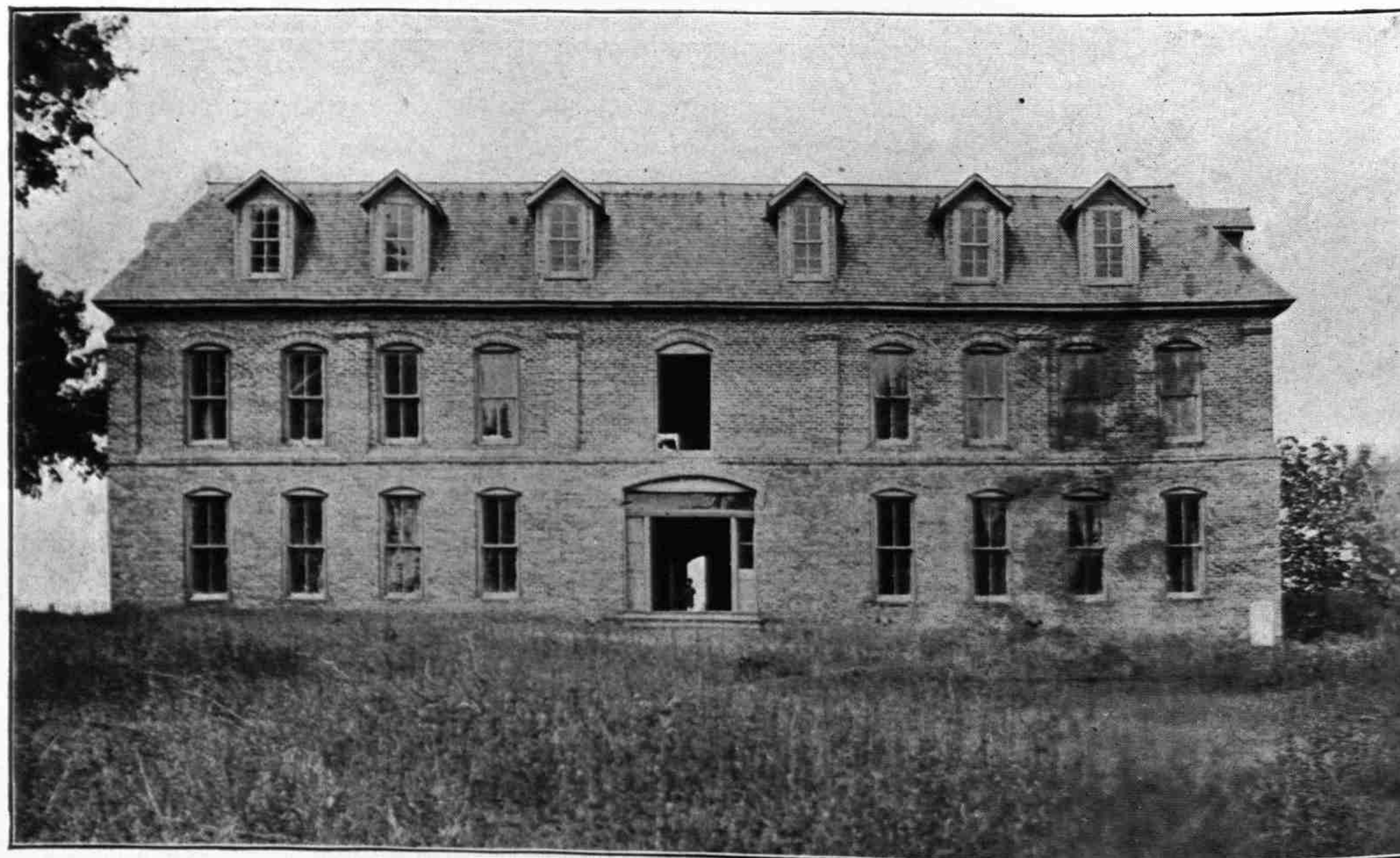
land and some fine homes in the corporation and a territory of about ten miles long bordering on the town on the southwest and northwest.

### Helpful Relations between the Races

In 1908 there were 11 teachers and 320 students enrolled, with 15 students preparing for the ministry. Prof. O. L. Coleman, the founder of the school, is principal, and for more than a score of years has been a helpful leader of his people. It is a matter of record that "the relation of the two races in the town is as good as that of any other town" and that the white people are kind and that they help and protect the school.

The approximate annual expenses of Coleman Academy are \$8,000. One half of this amount is received from students, the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the Woman's Home Mission Society each contribute \$500, and the balance is received from churches and individual contributions.

In addition to the regular academic work of the school, the girls receive instruction in plain sewing, fancy work and millinery, and the boys are given a helpful training in agricultural pursuits by cultivating the farm. The great need of the academy is the establishment of an industrial plant.



COLEMAN ACADEMY, GIBSLAND, LA.

Building erected 1907, costing \$10,000. One of the eleven buildings of the academy. The school is supported by the Negro Baptist farmers of northern Louisiana. The property is valued at \$50,000. Approximate annual expenses, \$8,000. The American Baptist Home Mission Society gives \$500 a year.